

Toughest question

By NIGEL ADLAM

TERRITORIANS yesterday faced up to one of the world's big questions — what makes a Territorian?

The story about Margaret Somerville being decreed a non-Territorian because she lived here for only 19 of her 99 years provoked a flood of comments on ntnews.com.au yesterday.

Artist Catherine Paton was outraged when her painting of the Methodist missionary was barred from the Portrait of a Senior Territorian award.

Speaker Jane Aagaard said

What makes a Territorian?

the rules stated that the subject had to be a Territorian.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson yesterday said you became a Territorian once you had made a commitment to stay here.

He said the NT had opened its doors to people from around the world.

Readers were less diplomatic online.

Chelsea of Darwin wrote on ntnews.com.au: "This is pathetic. Who cares how long

she was living here. Look at what she has done, saving all those women and children."

Bob of Darwin said: "Aagaard is correct. The only way you can become a Territorian of any stripe is the same way a dog turns into a cat."

"Without divine intervention, you have to be born in the Territory."

Paul Morris of Not the NT posted: "But Cadel is a proud Territorian. We even

put up a sign to show it."

And Is 30 Years Enough said: "The question of what makes a Territorian has been answered — only those a politician decides are suitable."

D Cooper posted: "19 years in the Top End prior to cheap air-conditioning?"

"Apart from the wonderful work she did here, I think that would make her far more Territorian than most who live here now."



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Meanwhile, Somerville Community Services chief executive Vicki O'Halloran said she was excited when the painting was entered.

"But I was happy with the umpire's decision," she said. **Editorial, page 32**

No cash yet for charity

A CHARITY for Vietnamese orphans is allegedly still waiting for its money from a Darwin nightclub.

Hoa's Angels president Emmy Lou Anaya and Discovery Nightclub consultant Russell Temple signed a contract stating partial proceeds from a fundraiser were to be paid to the charity by August 8.

Ms Anaya said Mr Temple had called the charity last Monday and promised to transfer the money by Wednesday.

"But that was days ago and we still haven't been paid," she said.

The *NT News* reported last Wednesday that the venue, on Mitchell St, owed the charity more than \$23,000 after holding a fundraiser with the Potbelez on August 6.

Mr Temple could not be contacted yesterday.

He told the *NT News* earlier this week the club would pay its debt.

Ms Anaya said the money was to go towards beds, school uniforms, building a rehabilitation pool for children with disabilities and hiring staff.

Taking from adults was one thing, but taking from needy children was another, she said.

Conference to target the blokes

BLOKES do not like talking about their health, but that could change in the Territory with a urological conference scheduled for Sunday, April 22, 2012.

The conference, in early planning stages, is likely to feature internationally renowned prostate surgeon from Britain, Prof Roger Kirby. Indigenous men's health issues will also feature.

Convincing men to attend will be critical and challenging according to Urologist and an organiser, Trent Farebrother.

Vote our natural wonder

TERRITORIANS are being encouraged to get on board and vote for Uluru.

There are just a few weeks left before voting for the new seven wonders of nature closes.

Tourism NT chief executive officer John Fitzgerald said the nation's heart made the grade.

"We Territorians know how special Uluru is, and this is a great chance to tell the world," he said.

A worldwide campaign for votes is in motion, with activity in the US, UK, China and Europe.

Voting closes on November 11.

Votes can be registered at www.new7wonders.com/uluru



Uluru from the air

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